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cham-fer

[\(click to hear the word\)](#) (chām'fēr)

tr.v. cham-fered, cham-fer-ing, cham-fers

1. To cut off the edge or corner of; bevel.
2. To cut a groove in; flute.

n.

1. A flat surface made by cutting off the edge or corner of a block of wood or other material.
2. A furrow or groove, as in a column.

[Probably back-formation from chamfering, from French chanfrein, *bevelled edge*, from past participle of Old French chanfreindre, *to bevel*: chant, *edge* (from Latin canthus, *iron tire*; see **cant**¹) + fraindre, *to break* (from Latin frangere; see **bhreg-** in Indo-European roots).]

⌘ BACK TO TOP
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cham·ber

(click to hear the word) (chām'ber)

n.

1. A room in a house, especially a bedroom.
2. A room where a person of authority, rank, or importance receives visitors.
3. **chambers** A room in which a judge may consult privately with attorneys or hear cases not taken into court.
4. **chambers** *Chiefly British* A suite of rooms, especially one used by lawyers.
5. A hall for the meetings of a legislative or other assembly.
6. A legislative or judicial body.
7. A board or council.
8. A place where municipal or state funds are received and held; a treasury.
9.
 - a. An enclosed space or compartment: *the chamber of a pump; a compression chamber.*
 - b. An enclosed space in the body of an organism; a cavity: *the four chambers of the heart.*
10.
 - a. A compartment in a firearm, as in the breech of a rifle or the cylinder of a revolver, that holds the cartridge in readiness for firing.
 - b. An enclosed space in the bore of a gun that holds the charge.

tr.v. cham·bered, cham·ber·ing, cham·bers

1. To put in or as if in a chamber; enclose or confine.

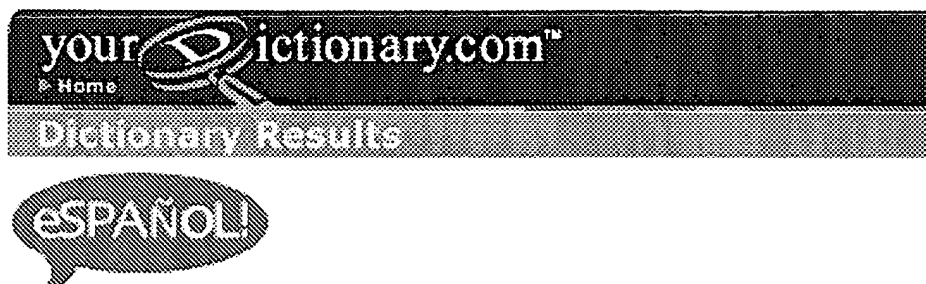
2. To furnish with a chamber.
3. To design or manufacture (a firearm) to hold a specific type of cartridge.

[Middle English chaumbre, from Old French chambre, from Late Latin camera, *chamber*, from Latin, *vault*, from Greek kamarā.]

⌘ BACK TO TOP

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chan·nel¹

(click to hear the word) (chăn'əl)

n.

1. The bed of a stream or river.
2. The deeper part of a river or harbor, especially a deep navigable passage.
3. A broad strait, especially one that connects two seas.
4. A trench, furrow, or groove.
5. A tubular passage for liquids; a conduit.
6. A course or pathway through which information is transmitted:
new channels of thought; a reliable channel of information.
7. A route of communication or access. Often used in the plural:
took her request through official channels.
8. In communications theory, a gesture, action, sound, written or spoken word, or visual image used in transmitting information.
9. *Electronics* A specified frequency band for the transmission and reception of electromagnetic signals, as for television signals.
10. *Computer Science* A site on a network, as on IRC, where online conversations are held in real time by a number of computer users.
11. The medium through which a spirit guide purportedly communicates with the physical world.
12. A rolled metal bar with a bracket-shaped section.
13. A temporary opening in a cell membrane that allows ions or molecules to pass into or out of the cell.

tr.v. chan·neled, also **chan·nelled** **chan·nel·ing**, **chan·nel·ling** **chan·nels**, **chan·nels**

1. To make or cut channels in.

2. To form a groove or flute in.
3. To direct or guide along some desired course: *channels her curiosity into research.*
4. To serve as a medium for (a spirit guide).

[Middle English chanel, from Old French, from Latin *canālis* ; see **canal**.]

chan'nel-er *n.*

⌘ BACK TO TOP

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